tongues, which have returned 10,000 or more speakers at the all India level, has also gone up to 234.

(e) The Survey will be conducted under the aegis of Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Status of educational standards of minorities

3374. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of educational standards of minorities in the country;

(b) whether Government have taken any measures to improve the educational standards of minorities in the country;

(c) whether any separate funding plan for providing education to minorities;

(d) whether Government have any plan to modernize the education; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) No survey has been done by the Central Government to determine the educational standards of various minorities in the country. While several schemes are being implemented to improve the educational standard, under the Area Intensive & Madarsa Modernisation Programme the Government is giving assistance through State Governments to volunteering Madarsas to teach modern subjects like science, Mathematics, social studies etc. According to the instructions of the Planning Commission, wherever possible, 15% of the funds is earmarked for the benefit of minority communities. Modernisation is a continuous process and steps are taken by the Government as and when found necessary.